

Matthews Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resource

Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

December 11, 2019

6:30PM

Advisory Committee members:	Howie Labiner – Chair	VACANT - Vice Chair	Harvey Boyd
	Ryan Maclatchie	Sandi Lee	John Gatlin
	Debbie Chopas	Susan Chambers	Scott Rossmeisl

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Roll Call
- III.** Public Comment
- IV.** Division Reports:
 - a) Special Events
 - b) Athletics
 - c) Parks/Outdoor Recreation
 - d) Cultural Resources
- V.** Director's Report
 - a) Project Updates
- VI.** Old Business
- VII.** New Business
- VIII.** Adjournment

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resource Advisory Committee

Department Updates: December 2019

CULTURAL RECREATION UPDATE

Programs/Activities

- December Gallery Display: Matthews Artists Guild. This will be on display through January 3, 2020. This is one of the biggest shows that MAG has had on display with over 160 pieces!
- Art display at Town Hall; these installments will rotate every 60-90 days.
 - Current show: Local artist Lela Kometiani mixed media abstract art. Her work is on display through December 2019.
 - Upcoming show: Artist Emerson Perez will display his charcoal drawings for January & February 2020.
- Public art update:
 - New “Love” sculpture by Tom Risser will be installed by December 15.
 - In talks with Martha Krauss and Gretchen Reid with Bee City to bring artist Matthew Willey to Matthews to paint a bee-themed mural in downtown Matthews. Martha and Gretchen will be presenting on this at an upcoming Advisory Committee meeting.
- Holiday events are in full swing. All Breakfast with Santa events sold out, and 1/3 of the Nutcracker performances sold out, with the upcoming 2 performances close to being sold out.
- Event with Matthews Chamber in November went well, with many individuals attending who had never stepped foot in the McDowell Arts Center.
- The new outdoor menorah is installed and on display in front of the Community Center. There will also be a lighting ceremony taking place on December 26th, in partnership with Bentzion Groner with Zab's Place. This event will take place at 5:30pm.
- Tickets for Cool Vibes concerts are on sale on Eventbrite now. Thanks to our sponsor Dessi Dufresne with Edward Jones. These concerts will feature an upscale vibe, with heavy hors d'ouvres, beer and wine sales, and a social hour before the concert begins. Continuing to market these concerts with print, social media and radio advertising.
- New Community Room flooring is scheduled to be installed at the end of December. This will update the space and make it more appealing for renters, as well as make clean up from events much easier.
- Matthews Playhouse upcoming mainstage production: *It's a Wonderful Life*.

CREWS RECREATION CENTER

- Programs/Activities
 - Program Recap
 - Babysitter Certification Course: 15 youth participated in the certification course. Staff will continue to offer this course on a quarterly basis.
 - Date Night Drop-Off: Similar the November 6th Date Night Drop-Off event we have already reached full capacity (25 youth) for the next event on December 13th. Staff has

incorporated more structure to this program and the participants really seem to enjoy the arts and crafts projects and the variety of activities offered.

- Crews Family Fun Night: The third Family Fun Night event is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2019. Staff has received a lot of calls and expects a large crowd. Two vendors/sponsors have committed to attending this event (10x Smart Home Solutions and Matthews Community Robotics).
- Upcoming/New Programs
 - Crews Family Fun Night: Mini Golf Family Fun Night will be offered on Friday, January 3rd. Family Fun Night will take place every first Friday of the month (6-9pm) through March 6, 2020.
 - Senior Women's Basketball League: The 2019-20 Senior Women's Basketball League at the Crews Recreation Center is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, January 8th. Games will take place every Wednesday at 6:50pm and 7:30pm through the month of March 2020.
 - Youth Lock-In: On Friday, December 20th the Center will be offering a Youth Lock-In from 7pm to 7am. Attendees will participate in fun, engaging activities throughout the evening. Cost for this event is \$25 per child (includes dinner and snacks).
 - Holiday Drop N' Shop: On Monday, December 23rd parents will have the opportunity to drop-off their child(ren) from 10am to 4pm. Attendees will participate in recreational activities, sports, arts and crafts and video games. This event is FREE.
 - Winter Volleyball Clinic: The Center will be offering a Winter volleyball clinic on December 30th, 31st and January 2nd. Registration is ongoing.
 - Summer Camp Programs: Staff has scheduled the majority of summer camps for 2020. Staff has added a new All-Sports youth camp and hopes to offer a new video game/eSports summer camp this year. Discussions are ongoing with the vendor. Additionally, staff met with reps from OrthoCarolina in regards to facility usage. The goal is to use the turf field across the street from Crews for several sport camps that typically take place outdoors (i.e. soccer, flag football, lacrosse and etc.).
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PARKS/OUTDOOR RECREATION

- Town Green Park
 - Four benches are being replaced along the path on the Town Green. The new benches will be identical to the two recently installed in the gazebo. Concrete pads are being poured underneath the new benches to make them more secure.
- Stumptown Park
 - The stage floor is going to be repainted to match the existing color. The paint gets worn down over the year with all the events hosted at the park. The work is currently being scheduled.
- Fullwood Community Garden
 - Some of the split-rail fence posts have rotted. Ten posts in total are going to be replaced. The work is currently being scheduled.

- Four Mile Creek Greenway
 - Mecklenburg County is working to repair the boardwalk at the Woody Creek entrance to the greenway. Work is projected to take place from December 2nd-6th. The Woody Creek access will be closed while this work is completed.
 - Nearby parking is available at Squirrel Lake Park – 1631 Pleasant Plains Road
- Squirrel Lake Park
 - Pond tested positive for Blue-Green Algae. Mecklenburg County and a pond maintenance company were consulted, and the best solution is to educate the public that it is unsafe for people and animals to swim/play in the water. Signs have been posted. The algae should die when cold weather arrives.
 - At this time, the water has not been retested.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Tree Lighting Ceremony was a success once again. Crowds were good, weather held off, Santa arrived, and the tree was lit just after 6pm. Always a positive, fun night in downtown Matthews.
 - Planning for next year's event schedule will continue. Parks & Rec will meet Dec 11 to work out any details for the coming year. Special Events will be re-signing all larger event sponsors in Dec/January.
- Valentine Dance is next on the preparation list. Plans will begin in earnest, in January. Tickets go on sale the first Friday in January.
- BeachFest –staff will be signing new exhibitors and new crafters for the 2020 event. Some of these have already reserved spaces, with the rest to begin in earnest in January.
- Matthews Alive –is also already signing new exhibitors and new crafters. The Board is interviewing candidates for the open seat in Arts & Crafts, and will begin looking at musical acts in January.
- Not So Spooky Halloween had record crowds this year. While staff was happy with the turnout, opportunities to place things differently in the park were discovered. Other things may also be added/eliminated to cut down on confusion and lines for patrons. There were more entries in the carving contest this year, with some very creative jack-o-lanterns.
- Pawsitively Matthews also had a wonderful turnout on Saturday November 2. Craft beer, Late Night Special band, and lots of dogs made this another fun event. The emcees were perfect, the music was perfect, the WEATHER was amazing. Dogs were adopted. Vendor placement and kids activities worked well. Staff could not ask for a better event day!

Matthews Hometown Holiday



All events are **FREE** unless tickets are noted.
For more information, visit matthewsfun.com,
the websites listed, or call 704-321-7275.

Novant Health - Matthews Medical Center Festival of Trees
Begins November 18th, 8am-9pm daily through December 26th.

The Nutcracker
November 30th-December 1st and December 7th-8th.
Presented by Matthews Ballet
Tickets available online and at Matthews Community Center

Gingerbread House Contest & Display
Enter December 2nd-6th at the Matthews Chamber. Judging on December 7th. Amateur and Pro categories. Info at matthewschamber.org


It's A Wonderful Life
December 13th-December 22nd (Friday, Saturday, Sunday shows).
Presented by Matthews Playhouse of the Performing Arts.
Tickets and information at matthewsplayhouse.com

Hometown Holiday Celebration & Tree Lighting
December 7th, 3:00pm-6:00pm. Train rides, live entertainment, Santa photos, and the tree lighting with pyrotechnics!
Sponsored by Novant Health-Matthews Medical Center

Downtown Matthews Holiday Stroll
December 7th, 3-7pm. Visit downtown merchants for shopping and special treats. Presented by the Matthews Chamber of Commerce and the Red Brick Partnership.

Crews Family Fun Night
December 6th. Game Truck Night! 6:00pm-9:00pm.
Crews Recreation Center, Crews Road. Info at matthewsfun.com

Breakfast With Santa
December 14th and 21st - 9am or 10:45am sessions.
For ages 2-8 years and their parents. Space is limited. **SOLD OUT**
Tickets available online and at the Community Center; matthewsfun.com





Town of Matthews
Not-So-Spooky HALLOWEEN
October 26th 5pm-9pm
Stumptown Park

Face Painting, Bounce House, Trick-or-Treating,
Pumpkin Judging, Clowns, Sweet Treats, Food Trucks

"The Haunted Mansion" at sundown



PAWSITIVELY MATTHEWS
SIT. STAY. PLAY.

**Saturday
Nov. 2nd
10am-4pm**

STUMPTOWN PARK
120 South Trade Street
Matthews NC

More details at
matthewsfun.com



"Winston" - 2015 Matthews Finest Fido

Over 50 pet-friendly vendors!
Police K9 demo
"LATE NIGHT SPECIAL" band on stage

Bounce House & Climbing Wall
Poodle Show
Craft Beer & Food Trucks!

Presented by:





Town of Matthews
**PUMPKIN
CONTEST**

Win a \$50 gift card!



CARVE, DECORATE, OR PAINT YOUR PUMPKIN

Drop your pumpkin off at 180-8 S. Trade Street (office behind the Free Clinic) on October 25 from 9am-6pm or October 26 from 10am-4pm. Judging will take place at the Not-So-Spooky Halloween event on October 26th. Event attendees will choose their creative favorite. Contest age groups: 16 & under and 17 & up. Highest number of votes in each age group will win.